

Nevada State Health Division



Newborn Hearing Screening Program

Fact Sheet

1. Every day, 33 babies are born in the United States with permanent hearing loss. With 3 of every 1,000 newborns having a hearing loss, it is the most frequently occurring birth defect.
2. The average age that children with congenital hearing loss were identified was 2½ - 3 years of age, with many children not being identified until 5 or 6 years of age.
3. The American Academy of Pediatrics has recommended that all babies be screened for hearing loss soon after birth.
4. If it remains undetected, even mild hearing loss or hearing loss in only one ear has substantial detrimental consequences. Research shows that children with hearing loss in one ear are ten times as likely to be held back at least one grade compared to a matched group of children with normal hearing.
5. Research has compared children with hearing loss who receive early intervention before 6 months of age versus after 6 months of age. By the time they enter first grade – children identified earlier are 1-2 years ahead of the children identified later in language, cognitive, and social skills.

Early Intervention Services are available to all babies in Nevada. Talk with your Doctor or call the Special Children's Clinic in your area.

Special Children's Clinic – Las Vegas(702)486-7670
Special Children's Clinic – Reno.....(775)688-1341
H.A.P.P.Y Program -Rural Nevada.....(775)688-2235